

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow. Claims 2 and 6 – 16 were previously cancelled. Claims 1, 18, and 25 are requested to be cancelled. Claims 42-52 are being added. Claims 3 – 5, 17, 19 – 24, and 26 – 42 have been amended. Applicant submits that no new matter is being added. Support for the amendments and new claims can be found throughout the application as originally filed. After amending the claims as set forth above, Claims 3 – 5, 17, 19 – 24, and 26 – 42 are now pending in this application.

I. Entry of Amendments

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the above amendments, as the amendments place the claims in condition for allowance.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 regarding Weiss in view of Herz

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 17, 19, 21 – 24, 26, and 28 – 31 as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,065,559 to Weiss (hereinafter “Weiss”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,460,036 to Herz (hereinafter “Herz”).

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that Claim 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Independent Claim 17, as amended, incorporates the features previously presented in Claim 18, which is now canceled. Independent Claims 23, 24, and 30, although of different scope, contain similar elements. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 17, 23, 24, and 30 are allowable. For the same reasons, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 19-22, 26-29, and 32 are allowable.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection for Claims 17, 19, 21 – 24, 26, and 28 – 31.

III. Allowable Subject Matter

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that Claims 1, 3 – 5, and 32 – 42 are allowed. Also on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 18, 20, 25, and 27 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating the allowability of these claims. Applicant submits that based upon the above amendments, all pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

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Applicant submits that, for at least the foregoing reasons, all claims of the present application are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the credit card payment instructions in EFS-Web being incorrect or absent, resulting in a rejected or incorrect credit card transaction, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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